

NOS Special Projects Highlights: December 2006

Project of the Month

NOAA 200th Celebration Web Site

Special Projects launched the NOAA 200th Celebration Web site, which provides a centralized location for NOAA to communicate to the public, NOAA employees, and others about agency activities, highlighting the past, present, and future science, service, and stewardship activities of all facets of NOAA.

The site currently features 80 Foundation, Transformation, and Vision articles that tell the past, present, and future stories of NOAA activities; feature stories that will be added throughout the year; collections of five to 20 objects with significance to NOAA's history; and "Top Tens," including History Makers, Breakthroughs, Historic Events, and Foundation Data Sets. Site content was contributed by authors in all NOAA line offices and Special Projects staff coordinated the collection of text, edited text to ensure it was accessible and interesting to a general audience, and ensured all text was reviewed for technical accuracy before posting.



A Special Projects technical development team populated approximately 700 Web pages with content. The team also built advanced features such as specialized index pages with sliding menus, slideshows, animations, and an interactive map—all to showcase content on the site. (Davida Remer)

CELEBRATING200YEARS.NOAA.GOV

NOS

Ordinance Reef Survey Project

The National Marine Sanctuary Program assisted the U.S. Army in an assessment of a munitions disposal site off Oahu, HI, known as "Ordinance Reef." Special Projects provided geographic information system (GIS) expertise, data modeling, and project planning assistance during the project development phase, prior to the field survey. After the fieldwork was completed, staff provided expertise to assist in the development of the munitions site assessment report for the Department of Defense. (Tony Reyer)

Economics Workshop

Hosted, on December 1, a workshop to discuss the value of NOS products and services to the nation. Workshop participants included valuation experts, users of the NOS products and services, and program office representatives. The workshop resulted in detailed information needed to initiate valuation research. Next steps include exploring valuation ideas with partners and ensuring full awareness of existing research in this area. (Peter Wiley)

NOA Awards Ceremony

Provided technical support for the Web broadcast of the NOS Awards Ceremony on December 8. (Mike Shelby)

NOS-wide Communication Initiative

Continued participation in the joint effort with the Communications and Education Division and the Policy, Planning & Analysis Division (together called the "Glue Team") to identify ways to enhance NOS constituent communications. In December, Special Projects developed draft Web pages for posting on the internal NOS site to provide a single point of access to the activities spreadsheets provided by the program offices and summaries from the brainstorming sessions that occurred throughout November. (Carol Kavanagh and Tim Goodspeed)

Metadata for Managers – E-Learning Course

Developed the course materials for the e-learning course "Metadata for Managers: Understanding the Value and Importance of Proper Data Documentation." This class is available through NOAA's E-Learning Center (<http://e-learning.doc.gov/noaa/>). (Sarah O'Connor)

Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

Assisted with the development of an IOOS briefing for the VADM that proposed specific deliverables for NOAA's IOOS efforts, as well as a draft revision of this brief based on the specific questions/comments gathered during the presentation. (Kim Cohen)

NOAA 200th Celebration Photography Contest

Led and coordinated the final stages and judging of the NOAA 200th photo contest. Winning photos were announced by the VADM at the NOAA Holiday Awards Ceremony, are available on the NOAA 200th Web site, and will be displayed in a Gallery Walk Exhibit at upcoming 200th Events in 2007. (Kristen Crossett)

Smithsonian Ocean Hall Exhibit

Supported the coordination of NOS content review for the Smithsonian Ocean Hall. This review was referred to as the "95% review" and included the scripts for all of the placards in the Hall. (Wendy Sera)

Ocean Web Portal

Participated in a series of in-depth planning meetings with representatives from the Smithsonian and NOAA to discuss site architecture, look and feel, and the first interactive feature to appear on the Ocean Web Portal. Although the Ocean Hall does not open until September 2008, the Portal prototype showcasing the site's initial offerings will be available later this spring. (Davida Remer)

Summary of Current Projects by Client: FY07 (as of January 5)

Client	Active	Proposed	Completed	Estimated Level of Effort* (person years)
NOS	24	6	7	9.9
NOS Program Offices	17	3	5	5.4
NOAA	23	6	6	15.1
NOAA Line Offices	3	1	0	3.4
NOAA Goal Teams	10	1	0	6
TOTAL	77	17	18	39.8**

*The level of effort estimates will fluctuate as new projects are added and existing projects are completed.

**There is an additional level of effort that goes into SP-specific projects (e.g., administrative).

Special Projects

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